

ABSTRACT

The invention describes a system, method and applications for knowledge commerce, including, but not limited to a knowledge exchange system, recipients, experts, institutions and a communications medium such as the Internet. The knowledge exchange system may include but is not limited to one or more data stores, a security system, a commerce system, and a knowledge delivery system. The knowledge exchange system may also include but is not limited to one or more search engines, calendar systems, invitation management systems, rating systems, personalization systems, content indices systems and content management systems. The knowledge commerce system provides the capability for experts to provide knowledge components and characteristics to the knowledge exchange system to make the knowledge available for sale over the Internet. The system allows users to search and potentially find knowledge components of interest, enroll in them and consume the knowledge via the knowledge delivery system. The users become recipients once enrolled in the knowledge component. The expert(s) may use the knowledge delivery system, a component of the knowledge exchange system, to deliver the knowledge to the recipients. The knowledge delivery system may utilize several tools, such as streaming audio, video, white board, discussion groups, or other collaboration tools, that support the delivery of knowledge between remotely located participants. The knowledge delivery system may support live, archived and self-paced types of knowledge delivery. The invention furthermore describes a

system and method by which institutions may automatically and securely provide knowledge components and their corresponding characteristics to the knowledge exchange system. Institutions are provided with delegated administrative control over their contributed knowledge components and members. The business-to-business commerce model allows for greater efficiency in allowing knowledge to be more efficiently located and made available for sale, and delivered over the Internet or other such mediums. Several applications of the knowledge commerce system are described including E-learning services, live conference services, consulting services, kiosk presentation services, live streaming services, and collaborative web casts.